



Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: February 13, 2019

Time: 7:15 PM

Location: Town Hall Annex, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Members in Attendance: Daniel Amstutz, Wayne Chouinard, Lenard Diggins, Charles Giroux, Michael Gordon, Brian Kmetz, Melissa Laube, Jeffrey Maxtutis, Howard Muise, Corey Rateau, Scott Smith

Members Missing: Pamela Heidell

Howard Muise called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Public Comments: There were no members of the public in attendance.

Administration: Minutes of January 9, 2019 were approved unanimously. Howard Muise noted that TAC received an inquiry about parking restriction regulations. Dan Amstutz commented that people have been discussing the topic in relation to financial and medical hardships. There will be no additional action by TAC unless the topic is referred to TAC by the Board of Selectmen. The Individual Action List and Active Projects List were distributed and reviewed.

Town Issues/Activities:

Howard Muise will review previous meeting minutes to better understand TAC work related to crosswalks near Daniels St and Richardson Ave, and to consider STOP signs at Edgehill Road. Muise also raised that the AHS Building Committee would like to meet with TAC. Muise will request materials before the meeting, and will suggest a date in March to meet. Scott Smith will let ABAC know about the potential meeting.

Corey Rateau noted that he plans to do counts and speeds at the entry of Menotomy Rocks Park. He will also be looking at the safety of a potential crosswalk near Rogers-Pierce and Maple Street. Rateau also noted that new meter collection/repair staff have just started for the Town, which will help collection efforts.

Wayne Chouinard reviewed his memo to TAC, including discussion about the design process for the Mystic Street bridge, and the process for considering crosswalk/sign/streetlight requests. In particular, he and Rateau will be considering the potential to improve lighting near Trader Joe's, where there have been multiple recent crashes. Chouinard also discussed the future build of an approach splitter island at

Medford St., and following up on STOP bar painting at the intersection of Florence Ave and Claremont Ave.

Amstutz commented that he is working on developing a process for how transportation issues flow through the Town, in efforts to reduce the workload for TAC. He also mentioned that he received a call with a complaint about the bike signal at the intersection of Mystic Street and Mass. Ave. Rateau and Chouinard noted that the signal has gone through many adjustments recently. Amstuz also discussed concerns with a resident on Jason St. about speeding between Irving St. and Mass. Ave. The resident may attend a future meeting to re-open the issue for TAC.

Amstutz provided an update on BRT. He has drafted a document detailing the MBTA data and comments received. He will be making recommendations related to the BRT, and will try to get the document in front of the Board of Selectmen in the near future. Amstutz noted that the BRT resulted in increases in reliability and 5-10 minute travel time improvements. Chouinard asked about the impact to vehicles, although data was not collected to that effect.

Amstutz also noted that Lime Bike is looking to transfer their full fleet to e-assist bikes. There is some concern about the cost of e-assist bike rentals.

TAC Social: Muise will provide an update to TAC when more information is available.

Vote: Authorization for Vendor Traffic Count at Park & Appleton: Muise clarified that the count would be for a signal warrant at the intersection of Park Ave. and Appleton St. Amstutz will need to provide more details about the account balance. Chouinard made a motion to add some contingency to the vote. Following the motion, TAC unanimously approved funding of up to \$1200 to conduct the traffic counts.

Vote: Entry Restriction on Glenburn at Park: Chouinard stated that the volume of vehicles using Glenburn in the evening peak hours is relatively low and mostly local. Chouinard made a motion for No-Action based on the traffic data. TAC voted unanimously to take No Action on the request for an entry restriction.

Crosswalk on Summer at Buzzell Field/Victoria Street: Rateau and Chouinard conducted a site visit to consider potential parking adjustments and/or relocations to improve visibility in this area. Based on the site visit, they will recommend to restrict parking. Rateau suggested prohibiting parking within 40 feet of the approach on both sides of the crosswalk. Chouinard is planning work there in the next few years, and would include a bump out in the future work. Smith suggested that if the removed parking doesn't fix the issue, then as a second phase TAC could consider moving the crosswalk. TAC will vote on the topic at the next month's meeting.

Crosswalk at Academy at Maple: Rateau will wait until warmer weather, and then do a traffic count at the location. Pam Heidell had contacted the Council of Aging, who said that the busy hours are between 10am and 2pm.

Traffic Calming on Kensington Park: Rateau had an equipment malfunction while performing counts at the site. He plans to follow up and do another count.

Appleton Street/Paul Revere Road: Chouinard noted that he is considering developing plans for a Complete Streets project along the Park Ave. corridor. He will set up time with the working group to take a look at potential improvements. Mike Gordon will reach out to Chouinard to set up a time to do so. Chouinard will also check against the Complete Streets prioritization list.

Safe Pedestrian Access at Bus Stops: Muise has reviewed recommendations and plans to review a second time before finalizing.

Pedestrian Flags on Mass Ave at Spengler Way and Water Street: Jeff Maxtutis reviewed the location and identified where the flag canisters could be attached. Maxtutis and Gordon will set up a time to attach the canisters and place the flags.

Howard Muise adjourned the meeting at 8:50 pm.